GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1306
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2000
SYNTHETIC MATERIAL IN SOFT DRINKS
VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the presence of synthetic material in soft drinks produced by the Multinational Companies;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any scientific analysis to detect this harmful substances in soft drinks;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to encourage the production of soft drinks on the basis of Juice or Pulp of the fruits; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH)

(a) to (c): Synthetic material in soft drinks is allowed within permissible limits prescribed under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules thereunder. The material/ingredients permitted in soft drinks have been evaluated toxicologically and these are safe when used within the prescribed limits under the Rules.

(d) to (e): Department of Food Processing Industries provides support to facilitate overall growth of food processing sector including fruit processing. Under its Plan Schemes,the Department provides concessional finance to food processing industries including production of juice/pulp based soft drinks.